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OHIO VALLEY WORKER

ONE YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION WILL FAVORITE 100 VOTES ? *********

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE FEDERATED TRADES COUNCIL OF LOUISVILLE, TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL OF NEW ALBANY, CENTRAL LABOR UNION OF JEFFERSONVILLE.

VOLUME I.

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY, NEW ALBANY AND JEFFERSONVILLE, INDIANA, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1904.

NUMBER 33

INDEPENDENT LABOR PRESS A NECESSITY

Labor Given the Knife by the Great Molders of Public Opinion.

The Workers Must Establish and Maintain Their Own Press If They Expect to be Properly Represented.

No argument is needed to convince the intelligent observer of passing events of the growing need of a labor press that has no entangling alliances with any of the agencies which have undertaken the task of emasculating the labor unions or destroying them entirely. The most superficial reader of the daily press is quick to notice the manner in which the news agencies of the world are continuously and forever giving Labor the worst of it in every conceivable manner. The Associated Press, the chief news-gathering agency in America, is made up of one or more daily papers in the various cities of the country, and the stuff put upon the wires and known as the Associated Press dispatches is usually gleaned from the matter prepared for these local papers. Very often a proof of the matter set up for the daily papers is supplied the Associated Press correspondent, and often, without any corrections or changes whatever, the matter is telegraphed all over the country and appears in all papers receiving the press report as Associated Press dispatches.

The foregoing recital is made for the purpose of showing that, while the Associated Press if damned for false stories, especially in nearly all cases where there is a strike or other controversy between Capital and Labor, in reality the blame rests upon the daily papers, whose reporters, acting under instructions, have juggled the facts so as to make it appear that Labor is wrong and that the employens are persecuted saints. To be sure, the daily paper merely serves its master in this. It looks to the "business interests," the banks, corporations, manufacturers, and large employers of labor generally for its support. And, obeying the impulse to defend the classinterest of the element to which it belongs, the daily paper uses all its powers to thwart organized labor, confuse the union membership, and help the employers to a victory that means no improvement in the condition of the workers.

The facts above stated are so patent, and are being more and more recognized by wage-earners, as the days come and go, that we deem an extended mention thereof to be superficial were it not for the moral the story contains.

Under the circumstances what is Labor to do? Must it docilely submit to the fate of inaction? Shall it cower and cringe before the public gaze because it has been lied about and villified-and whipped back to the factory, shop or mill through the misrepresentation of men in control of the daily press, whose economic interests are opposed to those of the workers? No! There is a better solution of the problem. The thing to do is to build up a LABOR press-owned by Labor and controlled by Labor. Through your own press, fellow-workers, you may become powerful, but not otherwise. With a medium that is under your ownership and control your organization may become a power not now more than dreamed of. To establish and make secure such a Labor press is the duty of the hour. You must have your own medium to give utterance to your demands, crystalize the sentiment that may be created in your favor, and finally do battle for you in every conflict in which you may be engaged.

THE WORKER is the only paper within several hundred miles of Louisville that is organized and established on the right basis. It is the only one that is democratically owned by the forces of Labor, and therefore is the only medium through which the favors of those friendly to Labor ever reach the point for which they are intended. It is the only genuine Labor paper.

Everyone who reads the Louisville daily papers will recall that within the past couple of years they vied with each other in their efforts to get up a union labor department. Regularly each week a column or two was devoted to the news of the unions. Where are these departments now? When they have not entirely disappeared they have dwindled to virtually nothing. This is a manifestation of the studied purpose of the Employers' Association and all its friends to give no recognition to organized labor except to oppose and belittle this great movement. A representative of one of the daily papers, in a semi-confidential manner, gave the writer the tip several morths ago that from that time on there would be less labor union news in the city daily papers than has been customary to give. Events have proven that he knew whereof he spoke. Labor is to be ignored--or, if given any consideration at all, it is to be given the knife.

Again, let the unions understand that they may expect nothing of value from their natural enemies-and in the final analysis the whole question is sifted down to and rests upon and is controlled by the economic interests of the employing class as opposed to those interests of the working class. We do not blame the employers for defending their interests, but the workers MUST awaken to a proper defense of THEIR interests, and this can be done only by and through the press which they own and control, and not through the press that almost without exception gives Labor the hot end of it in every great issue and on every great question.

Set up and support your own press and keep it true to its purpose. Therein lies your only safeguard, fellow-unionists.

IN LAST week's WORKER was printed a long expose of the Standard Oil crowd by Thomas W. Lawson. Mr. Lawson further says: "It is possible to-day for the Standard Oil, with dollars, to 'steer' the selection of the candidates of both great parties for president so that the people must elect one of the 'steered' candidates." Lawson was formerly on the inside of the ring and he ought to know whereof he speaks.

Sketch of President Gompers

"The Plate Printer," a Washington publication devoted to the engravers' art, prints a new sketch of Mr. Samuel Gompers, President of the American Federation of Labor, and from which we reprint the following:

"In order that this brief sketch of the most conspicuous labor champion may be more complete, it will be well in the outset to deal with the early events in the life of our distinguished subject, than to repeat and reiterate what is generally known and what we are familiar with, and what we have read and reread of Mr. Gompers. So, we vill begin by stating that on the 25th day of January, 1850, in the city of London, England, was born a robust, healthy, and remarkably fine-formed baby boy to a young couple that had recently crossed from Holland to attempt their fortunes in the great and ancient city above named. It is stated on good anthority that the newcomer at once set in to kick, not finding conditions as he would wish them, and all that know him can without hesitation swear that he has never up to the present time found conditions as he would wish to see them, or as good as they could be made, and hence he has been most vigorously kicking ever since, and trying with a faithful and indefatigable ardor and energy to right the wrongs that do but should not exist.

"What he has accomplished for the amelioration and elevation of labor and the toiling masses is common knowledge to all, and, as we have stated herein, generally well known. His genealogy on the maternal side is easily traced back to Austria, on the paternal side to France. He attended the common schools of London from his sixth to his eleventh year, when he was placed at the shoe trade for the purpose of mastering its mysteries.

"It seems that he had not been consulted, nor was this new calling tasteft. to him, and he kicked and as usual made his protest felt and respected, and the board of arbitration (consisting of both parents and himself) kielded to the minority and substrate the thornas striker, and he was apprenticed to the trade of his father-that of eigarmaking).

"He worked in the factory during the day and at night attended school and improved himself every spare moment when not in the factory or school in reading, writing, and arithmetic. When be was but 13 years of age his parents left old London to take up and make They arrived in New York July 29, 1863.

"During his apprenticeship the abolition of slavery and the merits of the controversy between the North and South were frequently discussed in the different shops and among the laboring classes of London, as no doubt, elsewhere, and it was in such arguments and debates in his tender years that Samuel, like MaCaully and Scott, showed his marvelour knowledge of ancient and current history that astonished his companions and auditors.

"He advocated the abolishment of chattel slavery as he has ever since a worse slavery, to-wit, the enslavement of the masses. Mr. Gompers never alludes to child labor only as a crime and deplores that so many, like himself, are being deprived in their tender years of sunshine, home, and school, and forced to toil for a living before they have the strength or mind to really undertake to toil, much less to intelligently and advantageously direct their budding skill.

"In 1864, when only 14 years old, Mr. Gompers became a member of the Cigarmakers' Union and has held a continuous card ever since, enjoying the proud distinction of holding the longes; continuous membership in the organiza-

tion.
"In 1882 he was elected to the Presidency of the American Federation of Labor, and has held the office continuously ever since, with the exception of one year, 1883. John O'Brien, of the coal miners' organization, was elected that year and the convention, realizing their nistake, prevailed on Mr. Gompers to again stand at the next convention and he has been succeeding himself ever since."

-F. T. C. Thursday night, Sept. 15.

00000000000000 TO ADVERTISERS.

"Printers' Ink," the recognized authority on advertising all over the civilized world, after a thoro investigation on the subject, says: "A Labor Paper is a far better advertising medium than an ordinary newspaper, in comparison with circulation. A Labor Paper, for example, having 2000 subscribers, is more valuable to the business man who advertises in it than an ordinary paper with 7000 sub-

iveverence vere

Parryite Calamity Breeders.

For long and weary months the country has been treated to much windjamming and hornblowing about prosperity from those who are at the top, but who know nothing of the real condition of a majority of the people. During this period great strikes and lockouts have been and are still in progress throughout the country. A hundred thousand men have been fighting against the rapacity of the Packers' trust; the building trades have more than 100,000 men on strike; the Standard Oil Company is the power behind the throne which has forced the labor troubles in Colorado; 25,000 textile workers locked out in the Fal River district textile mills; 40,000 garment workers in New York have fought for their lives, besides innumerable

smaller conflicts in every direction. In every instance the strike or lockout has been forced by the corporation either by reduction of wages or in an attempt to establish the open shop. Clearly the fight is one working under one general national understanding, to check, disrupt and destroy the unions. The attacks are usually begun on what are assumed to be the weaker organizations. In many cases it is begun against what are known as unskilled trades. These once broken up, the organizations resolved in o discouraged individuals, desperate in the fear of want, the capitalist forces will be strengthened from both ends for the center attack against the stronger crades unions.

In this connection a letter from a Parry agency in San Francisco, which has been going the rounds of the labor press, is strikingly full of interest. As an exchange remarks, it is full of "coldblooded 'business.'" The chief occupation of these agencies established under the fostering care of the Parry crowd is to furnish the new class of Pinkerton thugs, much worse than the old kind, to do the dirty work of the high-toned trust gentlemen in their organized and concerted assault upon union labor, now under way all over the United States. The malignant spirit which succretters soot to take under the Parryites for laboring men, as well as the utter capitalistic contempt for the lives of the common working slave, is an interesting revelation. It serves to show workingmen the bitter malevolence which inspires the cold-blooded tools of capitalism.

The letter is also interesting as a forecast of Parryite plans of forcing a general war of capital against labor. It shows also that the present widespread strikes are merely the skirmish line of the general engagement which the Citizens' Alliance, Manufacturers' Association and other Parryite organizations have laid national plans for. A perusal of the letter betrays the whole diabolical plot. Read it:

"Dear Sir: We herewith enclose for you our Mr. Hubert V. Ready's book, "The Labor problem," (copyrighted), and published by us at great expense.
"Any man who is not with you is against you. We are against any man

or men who refuse to allow a man to run his business to suit himself. We give everybody our ear, but few our voice. When compelled to talk it is

"Early this spring we were compelled to openly declare ourselves on the labor question. We took the best method by publishing the above named book. We, like President Roosevelt, have spared no one who was wrong, nor forgotten to praise where praise was due. Amongst them, the Citizens' Alliance, Southern R. R., United Railroads, Gov. Pardee, Mayor Schmitz, Chief of Police Witman, President of the Labor Unions, and those

President of the Labor Unions, and those "moral lepers," the walking delegates, etc., the future labor troubles, etc.

"Few, 'probably you,' are not aware that the strikes this spring were only the preliminary skirmishes of the opposing forces; the heavy engagements are yet to come. Perhaps before election, absolutely after. If it were diplomatic on our part, which it is not, to acquaint the public with the future labor troubles, you would be appalled. We never show our hand.

"We will be as well prepared to fight their strikes in the future as we have in the past.

the past.
"Listen to the following questions we

"Listen to the following questions we put to some we engage:

"Young man, if we engage you as a watchman or special police, and we put two guns in your hip pockets, two in your hand and fill every chamber with lead, will you allow the mob to destroy the company's property, until every chamber is empty?" If he quivers with an eyelash we do not hire him. To be prepared is sure success, which we attain every time.

"We thank each and every one of our patrons (the names of many appear on

patrons (the names of many appear on back of this letter) for all favors shown us, and trust you will carefully read the enclosed book, and continue to do in future as you have in past and present, send us your orders for help. We will carefully select suitable help for each position. You can always depend on us in times of Labor Peace and WAR.

"M. & R.

"San Francisco, Cal., July 30." It is high time for organized labor to do some good, hard thinking. It must meet the problems which confront it, and now, now, is the accepted time to look over the past and gain wisdom for

the future, in the light of the knowledge gained from a disclosure of the plans of the Parryites.

That the outcome will be all right can scarcely be doubted. Some unions may be destroyed, others may be forced to accept conditions not at all agreeable, but when the giant Labor gets its breath again the organized movement will be in better shape than ever before, and those now bent on destroying the union will come to fear, if they do not respect, the intelligence, the power, and the spirit of the new trades-unfonism. The fundre is ours even if the present is

so rosy as we would wish for.

TO EUGENE V. DEBS. THE LINCOLN OF LABOR.

Written for the Onio VALLEY WORKER by LUCIEN V. RULE.

Tis midnight, and the noblest are dismayed. Sleepless, we wonder what the morn will bring. While to the storm-tossed boat of Truth we

With trembling hands and wish the winds were When, hark! a friendly voice: "Be not afraid," And soon the presence of a mighty soul. Dark passion's billows will less wildly roll When he hath spoken, and the healing wing Of love be lifted o'er the land ere long. Dumb, shackled Labor shall resume its song From lordly Capital at length set free. His going forth is like the o'erwhelming sea That swallowed up the Pharoah-hosts of wrong: Yet, lo! a heart of Christ-like love hath he.

Comrade and brother in the holy cause Of human freedom, how my heart did warm When first I saw thy noble, Saul-like form Tower amid the tempest of applause That hailed thee leader in the strife that draw Now daily nigher. Helmsman at the head, Steering undaunted o'er the deeps we dread! Yet, lo! the travail that now o'erawes Maternal Labor will most surely prove The birthday of delivered Life and Love. Conflicting forces that we face with fear, But speed the downfall of an order doomed; While Freedom's springtime that so oft hath

But faded, fruitless, lo, at last is near!

III.

Lincoin would love thee were he now alive, And knew the issues of the battle joined;
Tell's rightful product plundered and purtabor left starsion while the tampires thrivet
Not mildly murmurous now the industrial hive;
Its hum grows angry at the robber hands That filch its gathered nectar in all lands. Dear wives and daughters to the den and dive Have long enough been driven; and no more Shall babes be mangled where the mill wheels

Go forth, and like the Man of Nazareth Follow thy duty even unto death; And lo! the stars from God's heaven look down With comrade-love and victory will crown! Goshen, Ky., September, 1904

Base Ball News.

The Cigarmakers defeated the Butchtowns last Sunday by the score of 5 to 4 in an exciting game. Both pitchers were in form. The feature of the game were the pitching of Pressler and the fielding of both teams. Pressler was effective when men were on bases. Perry caught a nice game. Following is the Cigarmakers- A.B B.H. P.O. A.

Cavanaugh, 1b. 3

Smith, ss.

		-	-
4	1	2	0
. 4	1	1	0
3	0	0	0
3	0	- 8	0
-	-	-	-
81	5	27	18
		P.O.	A.
5	1	10	2
	0	4	3
5	2	0	0
2	1	0	0
		0	0
. 3	0	0	1
8	1	8	8
		8	1
		1	0
2	0	1	0
-	-	-	-
37	8	27	19
4 5	6 7	8 9-	-T.
0 8	0 0	0 0-	-5
0 0	1 2	0 0-	-4
McBrid	le 2.	Press	ler,
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	3 3 3 4 4 5 0 3 0 0 McBrucket Ba	- 4 1 - 3 0 - 3 0 - 31 5 - 5 1 - 5 0 - 5 2 - 2 1 - 4 1 - 3 0 - 3 1 - 4 0 - 4 2 - 2 0 - 37 8 - 4 5 6 7 0 3 0 0 0 0 0 1 2 McBride 2, truck Out - Bases of	- 4 1 1 - 3 0 0 - 3 0 8 - 31 5 27 A.B. B.H. P.O. - 5 1 10 - 5 0 4 - 5 2 0 - 2 1 0 - 4 1 0 - 3 0 0 - 3 1 8 - 4 0 3 - 4 2 1 - 2 0 1 - 37 8 27 4 5 6 7 8 9- 0 3 0 0 0 0

base Hits—Holmes and Clark. Double Play—Smith to McBride to Cavanaugh. Passed Balls—Brown 4. Time of Game —Two hours. Umpire—Young.

Scott Holmes, who is touted as a wonder, showed up splendidly with plenty of smoke, a good curve and fine control, but he had very little the best of Pressler who certainly twirled in fine form and succeeded in pulling himself out of several tight holes.

Smith, Bayers, Pressler, Perry, and Cavanaugh set the crowd wild with sensational stops, catches, and throws.

Holmes pitched a fine game but lost through the errors of his teammates and the better team work of the weedrollers, who were there at every stage of the game as they played with a dash and vim which is bound to count.

Perry is certainly death on foul flies, and his throwing was also good last

McBride is not hitting up to his usual form but he is a good waiter and manages to get his base once or twice is every game.

The weedrollers are a popular team and draw large crowds wherever they play. The crowd at Butchertown last Sunday was enormous.

-It costs ten cents a day to hold membership in the Chicago Electric Fixture Hangers' Union. But it is a mighty good investment.

POPULARITY CONTEST.

The WORKER Union men's popularity contest waxeth warm. There is not much change this week in the relative standing of the contestants nearest the top of the list, though there is apparent activity among some further down, who evidently going to be busy from now on, or their friends for them. Only 41 votes separates the jolly Wolf from his warm antagonist of the Cigarmakers' union, and Fred Rush, of the Leather Workers, crawls up to within hailing distance of the leaders. It looks like it will be a hot finish.

All the talk from New Albany and Jeffersonville, and the way the subscripcates "dark horses" to burn, and some great surprises for somebody at the end of the contest

The following table shows the standing of the contestants;

LOUISVILLE LIST. H. Wolf, Cigarmaker Koerner, Jr., Cigarmaker

ed Rush, Leather Worker Wm. Kerberg, Sheet Metal Wkr. A. G. Smith, Machinist Chas. A. Burton, Printer H. Ninekirk, Sheet Metal Worker J. L. Sparrow, Leather Worker__ Chris Kundert, Woodworker Jake Wise, Barber Charley Davidson, Pressman Chas. Seivert, Bookbinder Ed. Newcomb, Painter John Eiden, Bartender.... Ben Middendorf, Salesman James Roberts, Horseshoer Frank Brinkman, Carpenter Ben Just, Cigarmaker Andy Ludwig, Musician James Sullivan, Cooper..... C. J. Lehman, Tailor John Recktenwald, Moulder Frank Schmidt, Bricklayer L. F. Baker, Beer Driver John J. Davin, Upholsterer Geo. Oppenheimer, Pressman

NEW ALBANY LIST.

J. H. LeRoy, Painter Michael Hasenstab, Engineer Silas Nichols, Woodworker Ed. Dement, Barber Frank Haupt, Bricklayer Wm. J. Noyes, Woodworker James Lewis, Salesman Frank Zelung, Woodworker....

JEFFERSONVILLE LIST.

R. M. Berry, Sheet Metal Worker Charles Tolin, Bricklayer
D. M. Robins, Woodworker Jack Barsha, Woodcarver W. H. Carter, Painter Oscar Duffy, Salesman W. A. Stout, Woodworker ____ 201

Union Men's Popularity Contest Ballot

1 Vote For				
1 vote 1 or		13,731	PER SE	
Member of	5510 7 (50)			Unio

As the Most Popular Union Man in. Write either Louisville, New Albany, or Jeffersonville on blank line above.

See conditions of Contest on page 4.

"Honest Labor bears a lovely face."-Thos. Dekker.

"LABOR is the divine law of our existence."-Mazzini.

order to obtain their rights."-John F. Heitchener.

Fact and Philosophy. -

"ORGANIZED greed and avarice and great wealth in the hands of a

n (Minneapolis.)

e making the workingmen a host of slaves, living in poverty and

pon the bare necessities of life. The outlook for our boys of

from bright. They face a condition of things where the

eady full, with competition so keen that the weakest have to the lowest wage into poverty and degradation."—Rev.

est government cannot long endure when the tendency of create a spid accumulation of property in the hands of a ender the masses poor and dependent."—Daniel Webster.

tutions must go hand in hand with the progress of

d. As that becomes more developed, more enlighteneries are made, new truths disclosed, and manners a

with the change of circumstances, institutions must

o and keep pace with the times."--Thomas Jefferson.

It is business; and labor is surely learning this fact, that there is no senti-

ment in business, and that they must organize on business principles in

CAPITAL pays to labor just what it is forced to pay, and no more.